[18th March 1931

(b) what the number of licences cancelled is and the reasons for such cancellation?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" Sir, as the matter is a very serious one since nearly 500 gun licences have been cancelled, may I know why the Government have not called for the information? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Before I make up my mind to call for the information, I should like to know for what period the information is needed. The question is not clear."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know whether any gun licences were cancelled this year? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I want notice."

Cancellation of the gun licence granted to Mr. Chattukutti Nayar.

* 650 Q.—BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the gun licence granted to Chattukutti Nayar, son in-law of the Raja of Nilambur, was cancelled and the gun confiscated suddenly;

(b) if so, who was responsible for such cancellation of the licence and what was the reason or justification for the same; and what was the purpose for which the licence was originally granted; and

(c) whether a list of all the persons whose gun licences have been cancelled in Tellicherry together with the reasons therefor will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Will the Government be pleased to call for the information? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not think we should call for the information, because Mr. Chattukutti Nayar has got the right of appeal. It is better that he exercises that right first "

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I know whether he has appealed? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" He has not appealed so far as I know."

Depressed Classes

Proposed acquisition of lands for the extension of the Ekambaranallur cheri.

* 651 Q.—Mr V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that valuable wet lands measuring about 1·47 acres are sought to be acquired for the extension of the cheri site in Ekambaranallur of Wallajah taluk;

18th March 1931]

(*b*) whether it is a fact that there are dry lands in the vicinity of the present cheri which are available for such a purpose;

(*c*) whether the authorities gave up the idea of acquisition of the wet lands in question on a former occasion;

(*d*) what is the amount which has been offered or collected from the Adi-Dravidas for the purpose;

(*e*) how many of the Adi-Dravidas who now want house-sites are really without houses;

(*f*) whether any petition has been sent to Government under section 48 of the Land Acquisition Act requesting them to give up the proposal and select some other site; and

(*g*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take on the same?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member's attention is invited to notification published on page 1808 of Part I of *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 2nd December 1930.

(*b*) There are dry lands adjoining the cheri, but they are not wanted by the Adi-Dravidas.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Rs. 516 has been paid as an initial deposit by the Adi-Dravidas.

(*e*) None of the Adi-Dravidas and Arundhatiyas for whom it is proposed to acquire the sites possess sufficient accommodation.

(*f*) Yes.

(*g*) The Government see no reason to withdraw from the acquisition.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In answer to clause (*b*) it is stated that the site is not wanted by the Adi-Dravidas. Are the Government aware that on a previous occasion the same question was raised and the matter was dropped?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government does not deem it their duty to decide between one set of contestants and the other?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is not possible to answer a theoretical question."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, clause (*e*) of the question asks the hon. the Home Member to state how many of the Adi-Dravidas who now want house-sites are really without houses and the answer is that none of the Adi-Dravidas and Arundhatiyas for whom it is proposed to acquire the sites possess sufficient accommodation. It is no answer at all. I should like to have an answer to clause (*e*)."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It is not possible for me to make the answer clearer."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know why wet lands have been chosen for the cheris? On sanitary grounds I do not think they are suitable."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Evidently those were the only lands available."

[18th March 1931

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" May I know why the Government are very particular about acquiring those lands only ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" For the benefit of those people. "

Alleged ill-treatment of depressed classes in Ramnad district.

*652 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(i) to lay on the table of the House the report received from the Collector of Ramnad regarding the ill-treatment of depressed classes in that district as alleged in the memorandum submitted to Government by the President of the Adi-Dravida Mahajana Sabha ; and

(ii) to state what action has been taken on that report ?

A.—(i) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to answer to question No. 658 [a]. The Government are not prepared to adopt the suggestion.

(ii) It did not call for any action.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know what the District Magistrate says in his report regarding the allegations made in the memorial ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The question has been fully answered in reply to question No. 658. "

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know what objection the Government have to place the report of the District Magistrate on the table of the House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " There is no necessity for that. I have given the gist of the report in the answer to question No. 658. "

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether some miscellaneous cases are not pending with the Subdivisional Magistrate in connexion with this matter ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Notice. "

Mr. W. P. A. SOUNDARA PANDIAN :—" In answer to clause (*a*) the Government say that they are not prepared to accept the suggestion of the hon. Member. May I know what action they propose to take in the matter considering the grievous nature of the case ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" In view of the report received from the District Magistrate mentioned in the answer to question No. 658, I do not see what the Government can do in the matter. "

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" May I know whether the hon. Member has received any telegram from the President of the Ramnad Adi-Dravida Association during the last ten days ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I might have received some telegram ; I do not remember it. "

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[a] Printed on page 307 infra.